(b) The date of commencement of operations by private scheduled commercial airlines is as follows—

(1) Jet Airways (India) Ltd.-13.2.1995, (2) Sahara Airlines Ltd. 1.1.1996, (3) Deccan Aviation-26.8.2003, (4) Blue Dart (Cargo)-31.12.2003, (5) Kingfisher Airlines-4.5.2005, (6) Spicejet-17.5.2005, (7) Paramount Airways-14.10.2005, (8) Go Airlines-28.10.2005.

The security clearance in respect of these operators was obtained as per extant rules as Air taxi Operator/ Scheduled operator.

(c) No proposal to grant security clearance to the Promoters and Directors of M/s. Jet Airways is pending.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The said airlines has been operating with the necessary security clearance.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

New airline service in Kerala

713. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala supported project of starting a new airline by Cochin International Airport Ltd. (CIAL) has been presented to the Central Government;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the Central Government are delaying sanction to this project; and

(c) what steps would be taken to expedite the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The proposal of the State Government of Kerala for a new airline to operate on international routes has not been agreed to in view of the fact that it does not meet the requisite guidelines which provide for 5 years experience of continuous operations in domestic sector and a minimum fleet size of 20 aircraft before Indian scheduled carriers are permitted to operate on international routes.